

White River School District 47-1 (White River, SD)

White River School District 47-1 is in rural remote Mellette County, South Dakota, within the Rosebud Sioux Tribal lands. The county is sparsely populated, and White River Schools serve the large district's 900+ square miles. The district currently supports four schools and 430 students, with a large population of minority students, including 94% who identify as Native Americans. Due to lack of funding, maintenance has been deferred. The district will make the following energy improvements: replace outdated, failing, and inefficient carbon intense (fuel oil/propane) HVAC units throughout the district with high efficiency VRF electric systems, a centralized Energy Management System, Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) improvements, and building envelope weatherization. The largest portion of this project, a fully electrified and centrally controlled HVAC system, will directly impact the project goal of greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction and the provide the necessary financial benefit of removing expensive propane and fuel oil.

Community Benefits

The White River School District is located in a DOE-identified Disadvantaged Community, and 100% of students qualify for the free and reduced-price lunch program. The school engaged Community and Tribal leadership in designing this project. It will host an event to advertise the project's opportunities and utilize local labor sources (primarily from the local Rosebud Sioux tribe) whenever possible. Additionally, their partner, the Willdan Clean Energy Academy, offers free advanced-level courses in their energy efficiency training program.

Team Members	
• Willdan Energy Solutions	
Total Funds Requested	\$ 14,155,000
Proposed Cost Share (%)	\$ 745,000 (5%)
Number of Buildings	5

